

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions of the claims and includes the following amendments as follows:

1-16. (Canceled).

17. (Previously Presented) An umbilical cord clamp comprising:

a pair of arms each having a length in a generally V-shaped configuration having rear end portions joined together at the apex thereof and having free forward end portions normally disposed in spaced-apart relation and being movable towards each other to clamp an umbilical cord between the arms;

identification means comprising a gender-identifying color associated with a portion of the clamp that is adapted and configured to facilitate identification of the gender of a baby while the clamp remains on the baby; and

a locking portion for securing the arms together when the clamp is closed on the baby's umbilical cord.

18. (Previously Presented) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the gender-identifying color includes blue for a boy and pink for a girl.

19. (Previously Presented) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the entire clamp comprises one or more shades of the color.

20. (Previously Presented) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the color is visibly imbued within or painted upon the clamp.

21. (Previously Presented) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the identification means further comprises an alpha-numeric indicia, security apparatus, or a bar code to inhibit or prevent unauthorized removal of the baby from a pre-defined area.

22. (Previously Presented) The clamp of claim 18, wherein a portion of the clamp is blue and the remainder is a neutral color for a boy and a portion of the clamp is pink and the remainder is a neutral color for a girl.

23. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying the gender of a newborn baby which comprises applying the clamp of claim 17 and visually analyzing the identification means to determine the gender of the baby.

24. (Previously Presented) A method of identifying a newborn baby which comprises applying the clamp of claim 21; and analyzing the identification means to determine the mother of the newborn so as to minimize the chance of misidentification of the baby or the mother thereof.

25. (Previously Presented) A method of inhibiting or preventing unauthorized removal of a newborn baby from a pre-defined area which comprises applying the clamp of claim 21; analyzing the identification means to determine at least the date and time of birth of the baby; and permitting only an authorized person to remove the baby from the pre-defined area.

26-28. (Canceled.)

29. (Previously Presented) An umbilical cord clamp comprising:
a pair of arms each having a length in a generally V-shaped configuration having rear end portions joined together at the apex thereof and having free forward end portions normally disposed in spaced-apart relation and being movable towards each other for clamping an umbilical cord between the arms;

a channel that extends substantially along the length of at least one arm and is open at the free end portion thereof to facilitate the escape of fluid therefrom when the clamp is closed and wherein the depth of the channel increases toward each open end; and

a locking portion for securing the arms together when the clamp is closed.

30. (Canceled)

31. (New) The clamp of claim 29, wherein the channel has a width of about $1/4$ to $1/2$ of a width of each arm.

32. (New) The clamp of claim 29, wherein a channel is present in each arm.

33. (New) The clamp of claim 29, wherein each channel is open only at the free end portion of the arm.